AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Currently amended) An [[A]] apparatus for assisting a speaker in recording ~~method of identifying~~ planned audio segments [[in]] for a speech application program, the ~~method~~ apparatus comprising:

at least one computer programmed to implement:

identifying text ~~planned audio segments~~ in the speech application program, the text indicating content of planned audio segments that are intended to be recorded and identifying ~~the audio segments containing audio text to be recorded and~~ associated file names for files storing actual audio segments after the respective planned audio segments have been recorded;

extracting the text and the associated filenames ~~audio segments~~ from the speech application program; and[[,]]

creating a ~~processing the extracted audio segments to create an audio text~~ recordation plan to assist a speaker in recording the planned audio segments, the recordation plan comprising a file that stores, in association, each identified text indicating the content of the planned audio segments and the corresponding file names for files to store ~~of recorded audio files of the planned~~ actual audio segments recorded by the speaker uttering the content of the respective planned audio segments.

2. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments further comprises:~~ the at least one computer is programmed to implement identifying text indicating that a ~~programmed~~ pause of a specified duration should be inserted in the planned audio segment ~~in the extracted audio segments~~ and [[;]] creating a silent audio file of the specified duration~~; and modifying the audio segment containing the text indicating the programmed pause~~.

3. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 2, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments~~ the at least one computer is programmed to implement ~~further comprises~~:

determining if the ~~text indicating a programmed~~ pause is indicated as being inserted ~~occurs~~ within ~~the audio text of the extracted~~ a planned audio segment; and

separating the ~~audio~~ text ~~of the extracted audio segments~~ into ~~discrete audio~~ separate text segments separated by the pause if the ~~programmed~~ pause is indicated as being inserted ~~occurs~~ within the ~~audio text of the extracted~~ the planned audio segment.

4. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein the at least one computer is programmed to implement creating at least one new filename associated with at least one of the separate text segments and storing the at least one of the separate text segments in the recordation plan in association with the new filename ~~processing the extracted audio segments further comprises:~~

~~identifying text indicating a variable in the extracted audio segments;~~

~~determining if the variable has an associated text file containing variable values; creating a variable audio segment for each said variable value, if the variable has an associated text file; and~~

~~modifying the audio segment containing the text indicating the variable~~.

5. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 4, wherein the at least one computer is programmed to implement modifying the application program such that the new filename is indicated as being associated with the at least one of the separate text segments ~~wherein processing the extracted audio segments further comprises:~~

~~determining if the variable occurs within audio text of the audio segment; and~~

~~separating the audio text of the extracted audio segments into discrete audio text segments if the variable occurs within the audio text of the extracted audio segment~~.

6. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments comprises~~ the at least one computer is programmed to implement:

determining if [[the]] a given extracted text ~~audio segment~~ contains more than one sentence ~~of audio text~~; and

separating ~~modifying~~ the given extracted text into two or more separate text segments such that each of the two or more separate text segments includes no more than one sentence ~~audio segments to obtain audio segments containing only one sentence of audio text,~~ if the given extracted audio segments contain ~~segments contain~~ more than one sentence ~~of audio text~~.

7. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 6, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments further includes~~ the at least one computer is programmed to implement sorting the extracted text according to the content of the planned audio segments.

8. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 7, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments further comprises~~ the at least one computer is programmed to implement:

~~identifying an initial audio segment containing audio text;~~

identifying duplicate ~~audio segments containing audio~~ text indicating a same content for a planned audio segment as at least one other extracted text; and

deleting the duplicate text from the recordation plan ~~audio segments~~.

9. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments further comprises~~ the at least one computer is programmed to implement:

identifying variable text indicating a presence of a variable in the extracted text ~~audio segment~~;

determining if a word immediately preceding the variable text is a closed class word; and

separating the extracted text ~~audio segment~~ into ~~first and subsequent discrete audio~~ at least two text segments wherein [[the]] a first text segment of the at least two text segments ~~discrete audio segment~~ ends with the word preceding the variable text if it is determined that the word is not a closed class word.

10. (Currently amended) The ~~method~~ apparatus of claim 1, wherein the speech application program is written in ~~language is~~ VoiceXML.

11. (Currently amended) At least one ~~A non-volatile~~ computer readable storage medium storing a computer program which when executed by a computer performs a method for assisting a speaker in recording ~~identifies and optimizes~~ planned audio segments [[in]] for a speech application program, the method comprising:

identifying text ~~planned audio segments~~ in the speech application program, the text indicating content of planned audio segments that are intended to be recorded and identifying ~~the audio segments containing audio text to be recorded and~~ associated file names for files storing actual audio segments after the respective planned audio segments have been recorded;

extracting the text and the associated filenames ~~audio segments~~ from the speech application program; and[[,]]

creating a ~~processing the extracted audio segments to create an audio text~~ recordation plan to assist a speaker in recording the planned audio segments, the recordation plan comprising a file that stores, in association, each identified text indicating the content of the planned audio segments and the corresponding file names for files to store ~~of recorded audio files of the planned~~ actual audio segments recorded by the speaker uttering the content of the respective planned audio segments.

12. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 11, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments further comprises:~~ identifying the text includes identifying text indicating that a ~~programmed~~ pause of a specified duration should be inserted in the planned audio segment ~~in the extracted audio segments~~, the method further comprising [[;]] creating a silent audio file of the specified duration~~; and modifying the audio segment containing the text indicating the programmed pause~~.

13. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 12, wherein ~~processing the extracted audio segments~~ identifying the text indicating that a pause should be inserted further comprises:

determining if the ~~text indicating a programmed~~ pause is indicated as being inserted ~~occurs~~ within ~~the audio text of the extracted~~ a planned audio segment; and

separating the ~~audio~~ text ~~of the extracted audio segments~~ into ~~discrete audio~~ separate text segments separated by the pause if the ~~programmed~~ pause is indicated as being inserted ~~occurs~~ within the ~~audio text of the extracted~~ the planned audio segment.

14. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 11, wherein creating the recordation plan includes creating at least one new filename associated with at least one of the separate text segments and storing the at least one of the separate text segments in the recordation plan in association with the new filename ~~processing the extracted audio segments further comprises:~~

~~identifying text indicating a variable in the extracted audio segments;~~

~~determining if the variable has an associated text file containing variable values; creating a variable audio segment for each said variable value, if the variable has an associated text file; and~~

~~modifying the audio segment containing the text indicating the variable~~.

15. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 14, further comprising modifying the application program such that the new filename is indicated as being associated with the at least one of the separate text segments ~~wherein processing the extracted audio segments further comprises:~~

~~determining if the variable occurs within audio text of the audio segment; and~~

~~separating the audio text of the extracted audio segments into discrete audio text segments if the variable occurs within the audio text of the extracted audio segment~~.

16. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 11, ~~wherein processing the extracted audio segments comprises~~ further comprising:

determining if [[the]] a given extracted text ~~audio segment~~ contains more than one sentence ~~of audio text~~; and

separating ~~modifying~~ the given extracted text into two or more separate text segments such that each of the two or more separate text segments includes no more than one sentence ~~audio segments to obtain audio segments containing only one sentence of audio text,~~ if the given extracted audio segment contains ~~segments contain~~ more than one sentence ~~of audio text~~.

17. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 16, ~~wherein processing the extracted audio segments~~ further ~~includes~~ comprising sorting the extracted text according to the content of the planned audio segments.

18. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 17 ~~wherein processing the extracted audio segments~~ further ~~comprises~~ comprising:

~~identifying an initial audio segment containing audio text;~~

identifying duplicate ~~audio segments containing audio~~ text indicating a same content for a planned audio segment as at least one other extracted text; and

deleting the duplicate text from the recordation plan ~~audio segments~~.

19. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 11, ~~wherein processing the extracted audio segments~~ further comprising ~~comprises~~:

identifying variable text indicating a presence of a variable in the extracted text ~~audio segment~~;

determining if a word immediately preceding the variable text is a closed class word; and

separating the extracted text ~~audio segment~~ into ~~first and subsequent discrete audio~~ at least two text segments wherein [[the]] a first text segment of the at least two text segments ~~discrete audio segment~~ ends with the word preceding the variable text if it is determined that the word is not a closed class word.

20. (Currently amended) The at least one computer readable storage medium of claim 11, wherein the speech application program is written in ~~language is~~ VoiceXML.

21-29. (Canceled).